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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/537,465	06/03/2005	Tatsuya Morikawa		4720

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WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

HU, HENRY S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1796

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/537,465

Applicant(s)

MORIKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Henry S. Hu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Pre-Amendment of June 3, 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4 pages</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. It is noted that Applicants' **four IDS**' (1 page each) filed so far were received. This US Application is from **PCT/JP03/15508** filed on December 4, 2003. It is also noted that USPTO has received **Pre-Amendment** filed on June 3, 2005. **Claims 3-7, 10-11 and 13-16 were amended, while no claim was cancelled or added.** To be specific, such an amendment is only to remove the improper multiple claim dependency. **Claims 1-18 with two independent claims** (Claim 1 and Claim 18) are now pending. An action follows.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1, this is based on the preliminary search done by the examiner as well as by examining the references cited in international search report and IDS filed by Applicants. It is noted that all four independent claims are marked with an underline and are combined with its dependent claims.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted as following: It is noted that **two independent claims are marked with an underline.**

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I. **Claims 1-17**, drawn to **a fluoropolymer "composition"** comprising **two** components including: (A) a methylene group-containing fluoropolymer and (B) a hydrosilylation catalyst, wherein said methylene group-containing fluoropolymer (A) has **methylene group-containing repeating units in the main chain** thereof and is capable of hydrosilylation in the presence of said hydrosilylation catalyst (B) and **one terminus of the chain is a carbon-carbon double bond or an Si-H group** and **the other terminus of the chain is an Si-H group or a carbon-carbon double bond**.

II. **Claim 18**, drawn to a different subject such as **a methylene group-containing "fluoropolymer"** which is selected from the group consisting of vinylidene fluoride-based copolymer (I), tetrafluoroethylene-propylene-based copolymer (II) and hexafluoropropylene-ethylene-based co-polymer (III), wherein **each of both main chain termini is an Si-H group**, and the number average molecular weight of said methylene group-containing fluoropolymer is 500 to 500000.

3. Where the group of inventions is claimed in one and the same international application, the requirement for unity of invention referred to in Rule 13.1 shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The expression **"special technical features"** shall mean those technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions considered as a whole, **makes over the prior art**. The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule

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13.2, although they share the special technical feature, this special technical feature does not define a contribution over the prior art for the following reasons:

4. In view of international search report for PCT/JP03/15508 filed on December 4, 2003 by Applicants, Examiner's own prior art search as well as the references or articles cited in **four IDS'** filed so far by Applicants, **Claims 1-18** is either obvious or anticipated by following: **Takago** et al. (EP 527,008 A1), **Langstein** et al. (EP 582,841 A1), **Badesha** et al. (EP 654,494 A1) and **Fukuda** et al. (EP 926,182 A2) (all four are cited as X references), each individually or in combination. In summary, these two groups have no common features in the preparation as well as its application since they are structurally different. The scope of the claims, i.e., the metes and boundaries are distinct. Accordingly, the special technical feature linking the inventions, composition from Group I and fluoropolymer from Group II does not provide a contribution over the prior art, and no single general inventive concept exists. Therefore the restriction is appropriate.

5. With respect to the fact that "both groups are structurally different each other", Group I was drawn to a fluoropolymer "composition" comprising two components including: (A) a methylene group-containing fluoropolymer and (B) a hydrosilylation catalyst, while Group II was drawn to a methylene group-containing "fluoropolymer" which is selected from vinylidene fluoride-based copolymer, tetrafluoroethylene-propylene- based copolymer or hexafluoropropylene-ethylene-based co-polymer. Additionally, endgroups are different since Group II requires both endgroups to be Si-H, while Group I requires to have both Si-H and

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carbon-carbon double bond. The fluoropolymer and its process of making is unique and thereby not interchangeable.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above shown as different subject matters and the search required for each group is not required for other groups have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7. It is noted that one phone call was made to **Abraham J. Rosner (registration # 33,276, tel: 202 293-7060)** on **September 5, 2007** to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

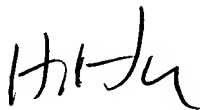
8. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

9. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Dr. Henry S. Hu** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1103**. The examiner can be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM –5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(571) 273-8300** for all regular communications. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Henry S. Hu

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1713, USPTO

September 30, 2007



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